

Winter is on its Way

To all Town of Essex Residents

It is the primary goal of the Public Works Department to make the town roads passable during storm events, minimize the hazards caused by slippery road conditions, and help restore safe traveling conditions throughout the town as soon as possible after each winter storm. This often involves drivers working long hours in hazardous driving conditions to ensure our safety on the roadways. We ask for your cooperation and patience during these times in order to have a safe season for all.

Residents should keep in mind that snow plows are designed to remove snow from the roadway to the edge of the road. It is likely that the plow will leave behind a windrow of snow in front of driveways. Residents are responsible for removing this snow.

PRIVATE PLOWING - Depositing of any snow from private driveways into the public streets is prohibited. This practice is dangerous and impedes the Town's snow removal process. This includes piles pushed across the street and the windrows that are created in the street. Homeowners are responsible for the actions of their contractors.

MAILBOX DAMAGE– During the winter season it is inevitable that some mailboxes will fall victim to winter's forces. Residents are advised of the importance of proper placement and anchoring of mailboxes and support posts to prevent damage from snow removal operations. Mailboxes should be securely fastened to a sturdy post which is sufficiently anchored in the ground to resist the impact of plowed snow.

If a mailbox or post is pushed over or damaged as a result of snow or slush coming off a snowplow it is considered a winter hazard. The Town will not replace the mailbox or post.

If it is determined a mailbox is struck by a Town snow plow, not the snow coming off the plow, the Town will reimburse the owner for a basic support post and a basic mailbox up to seventy-five dollars (\$75.00). Payment will not include costs other than materials and will not cover the cost of decorative wood or metal posts or decorative mailboxes. The Town will do its best to assist residents with the replacement of mailboxes deemed to have been struck by a Town snow plow as time and circumstances allow.

The First Selectman or his designated representative is authorized to use reasonable discretion in resolving disputes involving unusual circumstances.

Residents are responsible for keeping their mailboxes clear for mail to be delivered.

TRASH CANS and recycling bins should never be placed in the road. If a plow truck hits them because they are in the road the Town will not be held responsible for replacing them.

ANY AND ALL PLANTINGS within the Town's right of way are not the Town's responsibility if they are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

ANY AND ALL fences, walls, etc. within the Town's right of way are not the Town's responsibility if they are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

INVISIBLE DOG FENCE LINES within the Town's right of way are not the Town's responsibility if they are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

ANY SORT OF SPRINKLER HEADS, ETC. within the Town's right of way are not the Town's responsibility if they are damaged during snow plowing or any other kind of removal of snow from roads.

The Town will not be held responsible for any damage that is in the Town owned portion of your property.

Questions and concerns during snow and ice storms should be directed to the Department of Public Works at 860-767-0715. After hours calls may be directed to voicemail and will be checked periodically. All emergency calls should be made to Emergency Services at 911.

Sincerely, Essex Public Works Department